Washington, DC – Congressman Earl Blumenauer (D – Ore.) was appointed yesterday to serve on the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Human Rights, and International Operations (AGHRIO) of the House of Representatives Committee on International Relations. Blumenauer has been a member of the Committee on International Relations since 2001, and will continue to serve as a member of the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific.

Blumenauer has been a leader in the fight to end the genocide in Darfur and promote sustainable development in Africa. Blumenauer authored the "Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act" which recently became law. The new law strengthens United States' efforts to improve access to safe drinking water and sanitation in Africa. He is also a member of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus.

In addition to its regional jurisdiction, the AGHRIO Subcommittee has jurisdiction over all human rights issues, the State Department's operations, the diplomatic service, foreign buildings, the Red Cross, international family planning and child survival activities, the UN, international broadcasting, and public diplomacy.